DECEMBER

at the

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

DECEMBER MEETING

Date: Wednesday, December 16, 8:15 p.m.

Place: Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Robert Ames

Subject: "THE CENTRAL CALIFORNIA COAST - EDGE OF INNER SPACE"

Along our coast with its rock ledges and extensive outcroppings that occur on both land and underwater, there are enormous boulders to which living forms attach themselves. On land, these areas are most often a near-desert habitat where lichens and succulent plants abound. It is in the sea where similar boulders protrude from the ocean's bottom that Mr. Ames focuses his specially-built camera.

These rocky areas are anchoring points for hundreds of sessile animal predators - anemones, worms, hydroids, bryozoans, tunicates - which feed on a rich menu of microscopic and macroscopic living things exuberant in the constant flow of ocean water. The bountiful fauna, which often completely covers the rocks, has startling and colorful beauty.

Mr. Ames has been diving in local waters for years, photographing a wide variety of marine invertebrates. His exciting collection of pictures taken both ten fathoms down and in his home aquarium offer an unusual treat for the Academy membership.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"THE STAR OF BETHLEHEM", Morrison Planetarium's traditional holiday show, will play December 2 through January 3. Performances daily at 3:30 p.m., with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at 8:30. Extra matinees, Saturday and Sunday, at 2:00. The Planetarium is closed on Monday and Tuesday evenings and there will be no performances Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, or New Year's Day.

MORRISON AUDITORIUM

"THE SEA OF CORTEZ", the Academy's documentary film photographed in and around the Gulf of California, continues to be shown on Saturdays and Sundays at 12:45, 2:15, and 3:45 p.m.. Admission: Adults, 70¢, Juniors, 40¢.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"GOODBYE TO GLEN CANYON", color enlargements and commentary by Frank Sojka, of 122 miles of wilderness before the rising waters of a man-made dam drowned its beauty forever. In Lovell White Hall of Man and Nature through January.

Exhibit of the Month: "EXHIBIT TECHNIQUES", a demonstration of how preparators work. Main Foyer, Science Museum.

"SCIENCE IN ACTION" (Schedule for viewers in the San Francisco Bay Area: Tuesday evenings, 6:30 p.m., KTVU-TV, Channel 2. For other California areas, see the TV listings in your local paper).

December 1: "SEA OF CORTEZ", with Guest Scientist Earl S. Herald, Steinhart Aquarium.

December 8: "LUNAR CRATERING", with Donald Gault, NASA.

December 15: "EARTHQUAKE RISK", with Dr. C. F. Richter, California Institute of Technology.

December 22: "TIME-LAPSE PHOTOGRAPHY", with John Ott, Time-Lapse Research Foundation.

December 29: "ANIMAL PSYCHOLOGY", with Keller Breland, Animal Behavior Enterprises.

NEWS and NOTES .....

At the Annual Banquet held November 12 in Simson African Hall, the Fellows of the Academy paid singular honor to Dr. Ira L. Wiggins, past president of the CAS and now a member of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Wiggins was presented with the Fellows' Medal for the year 1964 - the first such award in the organization's history. The citation which accompanied the handsome silver medal praised Dr. Wiggins for his "outstanding fundamental contribution to natural history and systematic botany".

The featured speaker for the evening was Dr. A. Starker Leopold, Academy president, who returned recently from six months of research "down under" dealing with the wedge-tailed eagle of Australia, an experience he shared with the company through commentary and color slides.

And speaking of the Fellows of the Academy, the following were elected to membership in late October of this year: Dr. Ralph Audy, Hooper Foundation; Dr. J. L. Barnard, U. S. National Museum; Dr. Raymond F. Dasmann, Humboldt State College; Mr. Ed N. Harrison, Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology; Dr. John Hensel, San Francisco State College; Dr. Robert F. Hoover, California Polytechnic College; Miss Marjorie Hunt, University of California Medical Center; Dr. H.D. MacGinitie, Napa; Dr. Reid Moran, San Diego Natural History Museum; Dr. Kenneth Norris, University of California, Los Angeles; Dr. Oliver Pearson, University of California, Berkeley; Dr. Peter Raven, Stanford University; Dr. Richard Skahen, University of California Medical Center; Dr. Lawrence W. Swan, San Francisco State College; and Dr. Harry Thiers, San Francisco State College.

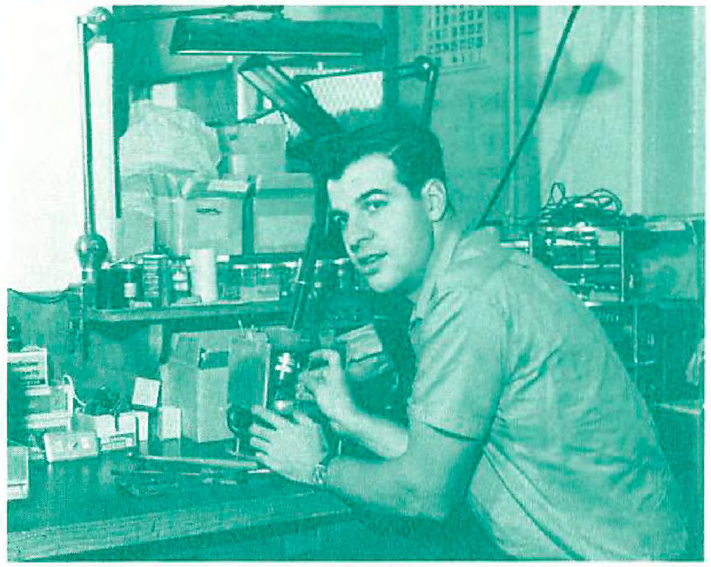
On the basis of work begun in the summer of 1963, Mr. J. Stuart Rowley, Research Associate in the Department of Ornithology, has embarked upon a year-long project of further research in the State of Oaxaca, Mexico. Sponsored in part by the Academy, the American Museum of Natural History, and the Western Foundation of Vertebrate Zoology in Los Angeles, the field work will be concerned mainly with birds of the region, but without doubt, collections will also be made of mammals and other vertebrates of the area.

Mr. Rowley with his wife, Estelle, left for southern Mexico last August where they will remain until the late summer of 1965. Representatives of the various sponsoring agencies will join them from time to time. The material amassed during the period will be divided between the organizations involved, and adequate representation will be sent to the Mexican Government which is generously cooperating in the project.

Once again, members of the staff of Morrison Planetarium will present spring courses of instruction in two phases of astronomy beginning in January 1965:

(Continued on reverse)

Meet the Staff



STEVEN CRAIG, Planetarium Technician for the Alexander F. Morrison Planetarium, directly attributes his bent toward the mechanical to his father whose interest in all kinds of home-fabricated apparatus drew Steve into the family workshop.

A third generation Bay Arean, he attended public schools in Berkeley, Oakland City College, and, after a three-year hitch in the Army, went on to Heald's College for training in his particular enthusiasm, electronics. As a result of his two-year program there, he was graduated in 1960 and employed almost immediately by the Academy.

A man of good humor and fine talent, Steve is charged with the design and construction of many of the special effects projectors necessary to create a sky show. Also, he is responsible for the maintenance of the great star projector and all of its complicated associated equipment. Whether it be a demonstration of the flight of Mariner II dramatizing the Venus probe, or a mechanical complexity showing the never-ending galaxies in the heavens, his ingenuity is present coupled with a respect for astronomical accuracy. With a flourish, he can create a dust storm, a rainbow, or a halo around the sun or moon - no mean trick for a mere human.

Steve met his wife Juel during his Army service and they have a 14-month daughter, Joycelin, who brightens their El Cerrito home. He enjoys restoring antique cars, stamp collecting, and photographing nature during the miles of travel they manage on holidays and weekends through northern California and nearby states. He is also busy remodeling his house.

If these outside activities were not enough, he also attends Contra Costa College on a part-time basis. Eventually, he hopes to go on to the University of California at Berkeley with an eye to a career in astronomy and more planetarium work - one for which he seems admirably fitted.

(News and Notes Continued)

ASTRONOMY APPRECIATION, begins Monday, January 18. A fourteen-week course designed to acquaint the layman with our universe. Non-mathematical, it will use the star projector to demonstrate many astronomical aspects. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fee $15. Registration at the first three sessions.

CELESTIAL NAVIGATION, begins Tuesday, January 19. A sixteen week course in the principles of celestial navigation and nautical astronomy for the beginner. 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. Fee $20 plus $8 for supplies. Registration at the first three meetings.

AT THE STROKE OF MIDNIGHT ON DECEMBER 31

Academy members will find it too late to make 1964 tax deductible contributions to the CAS. A gift, no matter how large or how small, will guarantee an extension of Academy activities and services. Your presents are cordially requested.

SEASON'S GREETINGS!

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

Regular Membership

Mr. George H. Allen
Mr. Mark R. Bernstein
Mrs. S. M. Buffett
Burlingame School District
Miss Helen A. Burton
Mr. Kendrick C. Fink
Dr. H. F. Frevel
Mr. David T. Griffith
Mrs. Agnes V. Harrison
Mr. Asher Dean Hatch
Mr. Richard J. Hitsch
Mr. Benjamin J. Lynch, Jr.
Mr. Paul T. Moore
Mr. Dennis M. Paynter
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Mr. W. O. Duffy
Mr. & Mrs. Nicholas J. Haritatos
Mr. Jack A. Hurt
Dr. & Mrs. Frank H. Leeds
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Mrs. Virginia Jane Newman
Dr. Lewis L. Parker
Mr. Max E. Samsel

Life Membership

Mrs. Daniel R. Conning

Student Membership

Stephanie Tee

THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK
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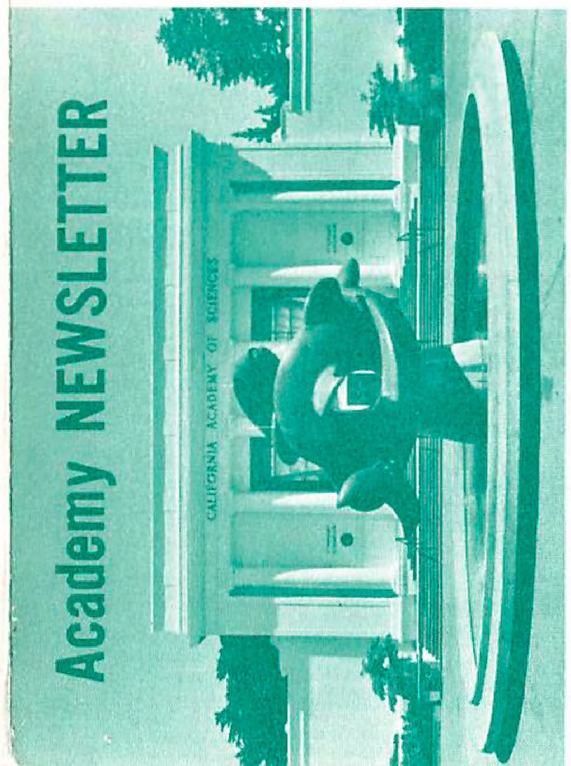

No. 300 – Published Monthly by the
CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES
GOLDEN GATE PARK
SAN FRANCISCO 94118
DECEMBER 1964